

PRESS RELEASE

LAUNCH OF A NATIONAL PORTAL ON MAULANA AZAD

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On 11th November 2013, a national portal on Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, independent India's first Education Minister, is to be launched to honour the occasion of his 125th birth anniversary. The portal is a collaborative effort by the Union Ministry of Minority Affairs, the Office of Advisor to the Prime Minister, the National Commission for Minorities, the Ministry of Culture). The portal will be a one stop point to collate all knowledge and resources available on Maulana Azad, easily accessible for people to know, learn and grow from the inspiration that he continues to be.

Muhyiddin Ahmed, popularly known as Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, (11 November 1888 – 22 February 1958) was a scholar and senior leader of the Indian Independence Movement. He was one of the tallest national leaders of his time in the cause of Hindu Muslim unity as well as secularism and socialism. His contribution to laying the foundation of education in Independent India is recognised by celebrating his birthday as "National Education Day" across India.

This portal is an initiative by the Government of India to digitize the heritage of great leaders and make their life and times available online. A similar portal on Mahatma Gandhi was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in September 2013, and one on Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is currently in the offing. The launch on 11th November 2013 shall be presided over by Shri K Rahman Khan (Union Minister of Minority Affairs), Dr Sam Pitroda (Advisor to Prime Minister), Dr Syeda Hameed (Biographer of Maulana Azad) and Shri Wajahat Habibullah (Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities). The portal - – www.maulanaazadheritage.org – will be made available to the public at 12 noon on 11th November 2013.